

REMARKS

Claims 5-13 and 19 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, and claims 5-7 and 19 are amended. No new matter is added by any of these amendments.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that claims 5-7 contain allowable subject matter. As such, Applicant rewrites claims 5-7 into independent form. Claim 19 is amended to correct a minor informality.

Reconsideration based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Amendment Entry after Final Rejection

Entry of this amendment is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: a) place the application in condition for allowance for all the reasons discussed herein; b) do not raise any new issues requiring further search or consideration; c) place the application in better condition for appeal if necessary; and d) address formal requirements of the Final Rejection and preceding Office Action.

The allowable dependent claims have been rewritten into independent format based on the features of the originally filed claims from which the allowable claims depend. The rewriting of the allowable claims is properly enterable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment.

II. The Claim Rejection is Rendered Moot

The Final Office Action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 6,216,228 to Chapman *et al.* (hereinafter “Chapman”) in view of U.S. Patent 6,064,764 to Bhaskaran *et al.* (hereinafter “Bhaskaran”).

This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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